

David Miller

Tangelo Peel

Seventy-two labors brought us this food.

The scent of tangelo peel on my fingertips
midday at work.

The surprise package
of oranges, tangelos and grapefruit
to be eaten while they were still good.

My father's surprise
Christmas shipment of Florida citrus.

My father finding
Christmas again for himself.

My mother's summer death
in a Florida nursing home.

My parents' retirement to live near new friends.

My parents meeting new friends
on a package vacation.

Their enjoyment together
of package vacations.

The new friends now mostly gone.

At my desk, citrus scent on my fingertips.

David P. Miller's poems have appeared in print in *Meat for Tea* and *Durable Goods*, and online in the *Wilderness House Literary Review* and the *Boston and Beyond Poetry Blog*. Additional work is forthcoming in the *Istanbul Literary Review* and the *Stone Soup Anthology: Fresh Broth*. He has been a featured reader at Stone Soup, and at the Attleboro (Mass.) Public Library, the latter sponsored by the Origami Poems Project. His "micro-chapbooks" are available from the OPP website. David was a member of the multidisciplinary Mobius Artists Group of Boston for 25 years, visits with the Bagel Bards in Somerville, Mass. and studies with Tom Daley.